REMARKS

Claims 1, 25, and 26.45 are pending in the present case. In the Office Action mailed September 17, 2003, the Examiner asserted that newly added Claims 26.45 necessitated a species election between IL-5, IL-4, IL-10, IFN gamma, and IL-2 arguing that these cytokines have different amino acid sequences and are functionally distinct. In the previous Response, Applicants elected, for initial examination, Claims 26.45, the species wherein the detected cytokine is IL-5. The relevant Claims for this species are Claims 26, 27, 32-35, 40 and 41. In the Notice mailed January 16, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the previous Response was non-compliant for failing to provide the status of all the claims (e.g. Claims 2-24). In the current Response, as noted above, Applicants have indicated that Claims 2-24 were previously cancelled.

CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at (618) 218-6900.

Dated: <u>February 6, 2004</u>

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